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Subject: LA's Sidewalks: Penny Wise and Pound Foolish
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LA's Sidewalks: Penny Wise and Pound Foolish

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Written by Jack Humphreville

LA WATCHDOG-The City of Los Angeles is expected to spend \$1.4 billion over the next 30 years to repair our sidewalks pursuant to a Settlement Agreement involving the Willits class action lawsuit that alleged that the City was not in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

While the yet to be disclosed Settlement Agreement appears to be a favorable deal for the City, the Bureau of Street Services (which is responsible for sidewalks), the Public Works Department, and “our” City Council have not developed a strategic or operational plan to repair and maintain our sidewalks despite the fact that our cracked walkways have been front and center for the last two years.

Yet this lack of planning did not deter the taxpayer-be-damned City Council from considering a \$4.5 billion tax increase last year, of which over \$600 million would have been devoted to our sidewalks. But this proposition was yanked at the last minute because of Controller Ron Galperin’s high critical audit of the Bureau of Street Services and its lack of adequate controls and management information systems.

The City does not have a clear understanding of the state our sidewalks or the cost to repair

<http://citywatchla.com/lead-stories-hidden/9262-la-s-sidewalks-penny-wise-and-pound-foolish>